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REMARKS

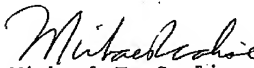
Claims 18 to 35 are pending.

The Applicants would like to thank Examiner Laura Weiner for the time she took on December 17, 2003, to discuss the merits of the application and pending claims with their attorney.

The substance of the interview was as set forth by the Examiner in the Interview Summary of November 17, 2003.

It is believed that claims 18 to 35 are now in condition for allowance. Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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December 18, 2003